

IN THE CLAIMS:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A pulley ~~(1)~~ for a continuously variable transmission ~~(2)~~, the pulley ~~(1)~~ comprising:

- a supporting shaft ~~(5)~~;
- a fixed half-pulley ~~(10)~~, which is coaxial and fixed to said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~;

- a mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~, which is coaxial to said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~ and is able to slide with respect to said fixed half-pulley ~~(10)~~ so as to define with the latter a race ~~(12)~~ of variable amplitude and to be engaged by a belt ~~(3)~~ of said drive ~~(2)~~; and

- a device ~~(28)~~ for compensating the axial thrust, comprising first cam means ~~(22)~~ and second cam means ~~(30)~~, which are carried by said fixed half-pulley ~~(10)~~ and said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~, respectively, and are coupled in contact with one another to impart an additional axial thrust on said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~ in the direction of compression of said belt ~~(3)~~ in response, in use, to a torque acting on said pulley ~~(1)~~;

said pulley ~~(1)~~ being characterized in that said ~~first cam means (22)~~ are defined by at least one body ~~(17)~~ made of plastic material co-moulded on said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~ fixed half-pulley

is fixed to said supporting shaft, and in that said first cam means
~~(22)~~ are defined by a single tubular body ~~(17)~~ made of plastic
material co-moulded on said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 1,
characterized in that said second cam means ~~(30)~~ are defined by a
cam-follower portion ~~(30)~~ made of a single piece with said mobile
half-pulley ~~(11)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 3,
characterized in that said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~ and said cam-
follower portion ~~(30)~~ are made of aluminium.

5. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 3 ~~or~~
~~Claim 4~~, characterized in that said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~ is
slidably fitted on a supporting bushing ~~(21)~~ made of plastic
material.

6. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 5,
characterized in that said supporting bushing ~~(21)~~ forms part of
said body ~~(17)~~ made of plastic material.

7. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 5 ~~or Claim 6~~, characterized in that said supporting bushing ~~(21)~~ is made of a self-lubricating material.

8. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to ~~any one of Claims~~ Claim 5 to 7, characterized in that said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~ is coupled to said fixed half-pulley ~~(10)~~ with radial play.

9. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that it further comprises an elastic element ~~(16)~~ axially pre-loaded for pushing said mobile half-pulley ~~(11)~~ towards said fixed half-pulley ~~(10)~~, there being provided positioning means ~~(41, 42, 43)~~ for pre-loading torsionally said elastic element ~~(16)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 9, characterized in that said positioning means ~~(41, 42, 43)~~ comprise adjustment means ~~(43)~~ for varying the torsional pre-loading of said elastic element ~~(16)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 10, characterized in that said adjustment means ~~(43)~~ are carried by an element ~~(38)~~ of axial pre-loading of said elastic element ~~(16)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to Claim 10 ~~or claim 11~~, characterized in that elastic element ~~(16)~~ is defined by a helical spring; said adjustment means ~~(43)~~ comprising a ring of holes ~~(43)~~, which are set at an angular distance apart from one another and are selectively engageable by one end ~~(40)~~ of said helical spring.

13. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that it comprises at least one retention seat ~~(7)~~ made in one between said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~ and said body ~~(17)~~ made of plastic material, and at least one appendage ~~(20)~~, which is carried by the other one between said supporting shaft ~~(5)~~ and said body ~~(17)~~ made of plastic material and engages said retention seat ~~(7)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The pulley according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ 1, characterized in that it comprises a spacer ring ~~(15)~~ carried by one of said half-pulleys ~~(11)~~ and fitted to a

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front surface thereof in a position radially internal with respect to said race ~~(12)~~ and facing the other of said half-pulleys ~~(10)~~.